

STATE OF VERMONT
PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD

Docket No. 8561

Investigation pursuant to 30 V.S.A. §§ 30 and)
209 regarding the Construction and Operation of)
a Meteorological Tower located in Swanton,)
Vermont)

Order entered: 8/7/2015

**ORDER OPENING INVESTIGATION
AND NOTICE OF PREHEARING CONFERENCE**

I. INTRODUCTION

On July 6, 2015, the Public Service Board (the "Board") received a letter from Christine and Dustin Lang regarding the existence of a meteorological tower located in Swanton, Vermont, that is allegedly being used to gather wind measurement data for assessing the feasibility of a wind electric generating facility in that location. On July 8, 2015, the Board requested that the Department of Public Service (the "Department") investigate the allegations contained in the Langs' letter and submit a recommendation to the Board as to whether the Board should open an investigation into this matter. On July 23, 2015, the Department recommended that the Board open an investigation into this matter. The Department stated that Travis Belisle owns the tower and, according to the Department's records, does not possess a certificate of public good authorizing its construction and operation. The Department further recommended that Mr. Belisle be provided an opportunity to show cause why he should not be subject to penalties under 30 V.S.A. § 30.¹ In today's Order, the Board is initiating an investigation to determine whether the construction and operation of the meteorological tower are authorized and, if not, whether it is appropriate to order any remedial action, impose a penalty, or take any other steps authorized by law.

1. Letter from Geoffrey Commons, Esq., to Susan M. Hudson, Clerk of the Board, dated July 23, 2015.

II. ORDER

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, ADJUDGED, AND DECREED by the Public Service Board ("Board") of the State of Vermont that:

1. Pursuant to 30 V.S.A. §§ 30 and 209, an investigation is opened into whether the meteorological tower located in Swanton, Vermont, and purportedly owned by Travis Belisle was constructed and is being operated without a certificate of public good.
2. Pursuant to 30 V.S.A. § 8, Michael Tousley, Staff Attorney, is appointed to serve as the Hearing Officer to conduct the proceedings in this matter.
3. Pursuant to 30 V.S.A. § 10, a prehearing conference will be held before the Hearing Officer on Tuesday, August 25, 2015, at 9:30 A.M., in the Board's Hearing Room located on the 3rd floor of the People's United Bank Building, 112 State Street, Montpelier, Vermont.

Dated at Montpelier, Vermont, this 7th day of August, 2015.

<u>s/James Volz</u>)	
)	
)	PUBLIC SERVICE
<u>s/Margaret Cheney</u>)	
)	BOARD
)	
)	OF VERMONT
<u>s/Sarah Hofmann</u>)	

OFFICE OF THE CLERK

FILED: August 7, 2015

ATTEST: s/Susan M. Hudson
Clerk of the Board

NOTICE TO READERS: This decision is subject to revision of technical errors. Readers are requested to notify the Clerk of the Board (by e-mail, telephone, or in writing) of any apparent errors, in order that any necessary corrections may be made. (E-mail address: psb.clerk@vermont.gov)